

OBITUARY



Jon Lamar Herring
1922-1985

Jon Lamar Herring, born December 30, 1922, died on February 25, 1985 after several years of illness.

Jon graduated from Crescent City High School, Crescent City, Florida in 1942. He enlisted in the Army in May 1943 and gained specialized surgical training. This prepared him for overseas duty as a surgical technician caring for war casualties. After the service, Jon enrolled at the University of Florida at Gainesville (1946-1955) where he

obtained his B.S. as an honor student and inductee into Phi Kappa Phi and an M.S. under R. F. Shirley. While at Gainesville he met Roland F. Hussey who became a lifelong friend and kindled his interest in the Heteroptera, especially in its aquatic members. One of the highlights of this association was the rediscovery of Thomas Say's "long-lost species" of giant water bug, *Belostoma* (now *Abedus*) *immaculata* (Belostomatidae). From Florida, he entered a

Ph.D. program (1955–1958) under R. L. Usinger at the University of California, Berkeley; he continued his interest in aquatic Heteroptera with a dissertation, published in 1961, comprising a world revision of the marine water strider genus *Halobates* (Gerridae). For this latter project he spent five months in Hawaii studying field and laboratory populations.

Shortly after receiving his degree, Jon was hired by the Government of American Samoa at Pago Pago as Staff Entomologist in charge of all entomological affairs. Those days, he said, were among his happiest. His duties included identification of insects, investigations of their pest status on principal crops, inspection of plantations and incoming commerce, training of local farmers on methods of insect and disease control, and involvement in the rearing and release of parasites and predators.

After two years in the South Pacific, Jon returned to the United States to take a position with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Beltsville, Maryland to work on biological control of insects. Within two years, however, he moved on to become the Heteropterist for the Systematic Entomology Laboratory (Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.) in Washington, D.C. where he spent the remainder of his career. Although his taxonomic speciality had been aquatic Heteroptera, Jon developed an interest in the predatory family Anthocoridae and wrote papers on this group, as well as on several other terrestrial families of agricultural importance. Among his finer contributions were his revision of *Halobates*, key to the genera of North American Anthocoridae, and his role in initiating a catalog of the Heteroptera of Canada and the United States. He published 45 entomological papers and described as new 6 genera, 62 species, and 3 subspecies during his career.

Jon was respected by his fellow heteropterists who often sought his opinion and help through letters or personal visits. Such

help was freely given. He was companionable, a good story teller, and a good listener. His broad interest in the world around him was evidenced in his reading matter which often found its way into conversations. Possessor of real artistic talent, he illustrated many of his own papers and often dabbled in creative art. He was editor of the *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* from 1963–1967; during that time he used his artistry to redraw the water strider *Rheumatobates rileyi* Bergroth for the Society seal that has appeared on the cover of the *Proceedings* from 1894–1920 and from 1937 to date (see Herring, 1964a: 1). He was also adept at macramé weaving and made many pieces for colleagues and friends. His skill with foreign languages allowed him to help colleagues with French, German, and Spanish. He also avidly collected and had a broad knowledge of U.S. coins. His interest in genealogy enabled him to trace his ancestry into pre-Revolutionary times in the southern part of the present United States.

Jon retired in August 1979 and moved to Ocala, Florida. He is survived by his wife Katherine (Kate) and three daughters, Kitt, Tiara, and Trina.

INSECT TAXA DESCRIBED BY J. L. HERRING

Family Anthocoridae:

Genera:

- Alofa* Herring, 1976c: 150
- Dolostethus* Henry and Herring, 1978: 520
- Kitocoris* Herring, 1967: 396
- Tiare* Herring, 1967: 400

Species:

- Blaptostethus pacificus* Herring, 1967: 395
- Dolostethus pubescens* Henry and Herring, 1978: 522
- Kitocoris omura* Herring, 1967: 395
- Lasiochilus ashlocki* Herring, 1966b: 128
- Lasiochilus ather* Herring, 1967: 410
- Lasiochilus campylus* Herring, 1967: 409
- Lasiochilus mesostenus* Herring, 1967: 408
- Lasiochilus palauensis* Herring, 1967: 407
- Nidicola aglaia* Drake and Herring, 1964: 59
- Nidicola engys* Drake and Herring, 1964: 61
- Nidicola etes* Drake and Herring, 1964: 59
- Nidicola mazda* Herring, 1966b: 129

Nidicola mitra Drake and Herring, 1964: 61
Orius alcidis Herring, 1966c: 1101
Orius candiopo Herring, 1966c: 1098
Orius championi Herring, 1966c: 1095
Orius diespeter Herring, 1966c: 1098
Orius euryale Herring, 1966c: 1103
Orius florentiae Herring, 1966c: 1095
Orius harpocrates Herring, 1966c: 1097
Orius ixionides Herring, 1966c: 1100
Orius jasiones Herring, 1966c: 1108
Orius lesliae Herring, 1966c: 1096
Orius niobe Herring, 1967: 399
Orius pele Herring, 1966c: 1096
Orius thyestes Herring, 1966c: 1099
Tiare nesiotis Herring, 1967: 401
Xylocoris dybasi Herring, 1967: 413

Family Belostomatidae:

Species:

Abedus cantralli Hussey and Herring, 1950a: 85
 (a junior synonym of *Abedus immaculatus*
 (Say), 1832)

Family Coreidae:

Species:

Chelinidea staffileis Herring, 1980: 239

Family Gerridae:

Species:

Halobates browni Herring, 1961: 270
Halobates bryani Herring, 1961: 286
Halobates calyptus Herring, 1961: 285
Halobates darwini Herring, 1961: 278
Halobates eschscholtzi Herring, 1961: 254
Halobates fijiensis Herring, 1958a: 10
Halobates galatea Herring, 1961: 294
Halobates katherinae Herring, 1958a: 8
Halobates kelleni Herring, 1961: 266
Halobates nereis Herring, 1961: 272
Halobates panope Herring, 1961: 295
Halobates peronis Herring, 1961: 278
Halobates poseidon Herring, 1961: 287
Halobates salotae Herring, 1961: 260
Halobates tethys Herring, 1961: 273
Halobates trynae Herring, 1964: 85
Hermatobates bredini Herring, 1965a: 124
Hermatobates tiare Herring, 1965a: 126
Rheumatobates crinitus Herring, 1949: 160

Subspecies:

Metrobates anomalus comatipes Hussey and Herring, 1949: 169
Metrobates hesperius depilatus Hussey and Herring, 1949: 168
Metrobates hesperius ocalensis Hussey and Herring, 1949: 167

Family Miridae:

Species:

Corticoris infuscatus Henry and Herring, 1979: 85
Corticoris mexicanus Henry and Herring, 1979: 87

Neoborella canadensis Kelton and Herring, 1978: 779

Neoborella pseudotsugae Kelton and Herring, 1978: 779

Neoborella xanthenes Herring, 1972: 9

Rhinacloa callicrates Herring, 1971: 449

Trynocoris lawrencei Herring, 1976a: 93

Family Saldidae:

Species:

Omania nauruensis Herring and Chapman, 1967: 355

Family Veliidae:

Genus:

Husseyella Herring, 1955: 21

Species:

Halovelia danae Herring, 1958a: 12
Microvelia alachuana Hussey and Herring, 1950b: 117
Microvelia starmuehlneri Polhemus and Herring, 1970a: 181
Rhagovelia pidaxa Polhemus and Herring, 1970a: 183

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